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In this plain, called by the Indians Gatchen-
kaik or Rocky Hills, Crimé's illness caused us to remain en-
camped until March 21, during the greater part of which
time I and several others were suffering from neuralgia and
ulcerations in the mouth, caused I think, by the bad water
we had to drink, perhaps also by the want of salt, which had
become a very scarce commodity.

Friendly rivalry was kept up between the tribes in play,
hunting, and other sports, in which fortune varied from one
side to the other. Every other day I visited poor Crimé,
whose groans might be heard at night accompanied by the
chant of some old hag. The sick man always asked me
how long he would live. I at first tried to persuade him that
he would get well, but after a time, as he was really fast
sinking, gave him to understand that he might live a month
if he was lucky. I offered to open his leg and endeavour to
cure him, but this he would not allow, stating that if he died
under the operation it would go hard with the doctor, which
was indeed true, so I gave up my intentions of performing
a surgical operation.

Before we broke up the camp, a Valdivian and other
Indians arrived from Chocoque's, but brought little news,
stating that the Manzaneros were still dispersed amongst
the valleys of the Cordillera engaged in gathering the yearly
harvest of apples and piñones: of these we had already re-
ceived plenty from Foyel's people, who kept up a constant
communication with their relations near the Rio Limay.

On the 21st all left the valley and travelled a few leagues
through a diversified country. On the line of marsh cliffs,
which stood out in the glens in irregular, picturesque manner,
were of yellow and red sandstone, but to the westward black
basaltic heights could be seen abutting on the plains, while
in hunting over the higher ground masses of ironstone and
igneous rock were met with scattered over the surface. We
remained for the night in a valley called Changi, and, pro-
ceeding next day, arrived about noon at a large plain shut
in by sandstone cliffs on the eastern side, at the northern

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occupied or distracted, and the business of catching the [64]
horses devolved on myself, single-handed at first. Having OUT
secured the troop, the next task was to catch my newly-
acquired steed; the sight of a lazo was sufficient to make
him gallop a league, and as he was very swift, three hours
were spent in ineffectual efforts, but at last, two or three of
my comrades coming up to my assistance, he was caught.
Giving my fifteen-year-old page charge of the remaining
horses, I started, in company with one of my friends, to join
the hunting circle, already in course of formation.

We rode up a valley in an easterly direction, on our way 758 ●
passing the invalid Cristé, who, groaning with pain, lay
stretched out at full length on a sort of couch composed of
blankets on the horse's back, his wife leading the horse and
wailing out loud. But as condolences were of little use, we 123
passed on in silence, and shortly emerged from the valley
which sloped up by gradual ascent to a wide plain of sandy
soil and stunted bushes, bounded on the eastern horizon by
a line of high jagged hills, which stretched to the southward
as far as the eye could reach. While sitting under a bush
by the fire, I was attacked with headache and sickness,
the premonitory symptoms of the epidemic; however, I
mounted and joined the hunting party, and at the end of the
circle felt much better, although unable to eat.

The finish brought us to the entrance of a valley which
wound among the precipitous rocky hills of the range seen
from the farther verge of the plain. While watching the cava-
cade of women and baggage, I looked long in vain for my
own troop of four horses, but at last descried them trotting
without a guide in the rear of the column, their natural
sagacity or perhaps thirst having induced them to follow
their comrades. The trusty page had left them to take care
of themselves, and gone off hunting on his own account,
which behaviour, repeated on a subsequent occasion, caused
the loss of the steed. Towards evening we encamped in a
valley enclosed by three hills, one of which, of decidedly